



STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
Office of Career and Technical Preparation

Informational Update

December 2004

**PLEASE FORWARD THIS MESSAGE TO ALL IN YOUR REGION WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR
CI PLANNING, ACTIONS, ASSESSMENT, AND REPORTING.**

Message from Patty Cantú:

On behalf of all of us in OCTP, we wish you a very pleasant holiday season. We look forward to working with you in 2005.

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Cherry Commission Update

The Cherry Commission held its last meeting on December 9. A draft Final Report was discussed and the report will probably get to the Governor later this month. Key recommendations that impact our programs:

- make higher education the expectation for students
- increase the rigor of the high school curriculum
- replace the MEAP with a college entrance exam
- integrate Entrepreneurship skills into K-12 standards
- increase the current efforts of developing Entrepreneurship educational programs
- refashion high school environments
- provide professional development for high school educators to meet the new rigorous standards
- replace the current dual enrollment funding system

You can review the whole document on the website: www.cherrycommission.org.

High School Reform Team

The high school reform team at MDE attended the second annual High School Leadership Summit. (Patty Cantú from OCTP attend in 2003 and Glenna Zollinger-Russell was our representative in Washington, DC this year). The High School Reform Team has been meeting since the first leadership summit last year and have given a report to both the Cherry Commission and the Michigan State Board of Education. OCTP has been a member of the team and will continue to work with them toward implementing ideas for change. Some of the highlights of their recommendations include:

- increasing the rigor of high school curriculum standards
- develop an assessment system tied to rigorous standards, including end of course exams in core subjects
- provide support for students who need assistance
- integrate meaningful experiences for students (such as CTE)
- provide professional development for educators
- redesign pre-service teacher training
- use smaller learning communities
- create an environment responsive to the needs of students
- unify home, school, and community
- integrate high school outcomes to college entrance
- transition to flexible educational models
- align students to best practices

OCTP will continue its involvement with the High School Reform Team.

News from the MDE

In a memorandum to the State Board of Education entitled, “*Structural Issues Surrounding Michigan School Funding In The 21st Century: a call for dialogue, input, and action*,” State Superintendent Tom Watkins proposed that we take an introspective look at our public education system “that may entail consolidations, mergers, joint operating agreements, and drastically modified business processes.” He hopes to work with legislators to create a unified action plan to review current school district boundaries, sizes and costs and to identify administrative inefficiencies and optimize allocation of resources. He will also ask that the Governor and Legislature provide funding to conduct a thorough school funding Adequacy and Equity Study.

The memorandum detail can be accessed at: www.michigan.gov/documents/michiganschoolfunding_110803_7.pdf.

Career Initiatives Grant Dissemination for 2005-2006

As a result of the feedback that we received from the Career Initiatives (CI) Advisory Committee in November, OCTP will be conducting two grant dissemination meetings at the Henry Center in East Lansing. The first will be on Thursday, January 27, 2005 and the second workshop will occur on Tuesday, February 1, 2005. The February 1st date will also have a video link in Traverse City. Regions are requested to attend as a team and may choose between these two dates. The 2005-2006 CI grants will still be due to our office on May 2, 2005. Invitations and registration information to these workshops will be sent in the near future. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Bailey at 517-373-8904.

2005 Governor's Conference on Career Education

There is still time to SAVE MONEY by registering NOW for the 2005 Governor's Conference on Career Education. The Annual conference is scheduled for February 13, 14, 15 2005 at the Marriott Detroit Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan. The theme for this year's conference is: **Michigan's 3 Rs: Rigor, Relevance & Reform**. Dr. Jeremy Hughes, Chief Academic Officer / Deputy Superintendent, Michigan Department of Education has confirmed his participation. Dr. Hughes will share the recommendations of the Michigan High School Reform Team at the Opening session of this conference. Don't miss this opportunity to participate in this exciting conference and professional development opportunity.

For more information and online registration please go to: www.mccte.msu.edu.

CTE Data Quality Workshop Notice

Invitations to the Office of Career and Technical Preparation *Effective Leadership for CTE Data Quality Workshop* are being mailed the week of **December 13, 2004**. Regional and building level CTE administrators responsible for the oversight and submission of CTE data to the state are encouraged to attend. The workshop is designed to provide technical assistance on improving the accuracy and validity of data used to drive federal funding to

Michigan. A train-the-trainer approach in the workshop will include resource materials, which will assist in further local level data quality training. The workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn West in Lansing. Those wishing to attend should submit the registration form provided in the invitation package by January 17. There is no registration fee. Please direct questions regarding the workshop to Sandra Carter at (517) 335-0372.

CTE Week

For many years, we had a state resolution, signed by the Governor, in observation of CTE week. As Richard DeLong has noted, we have not done this for the past several year. You will be happy to know that we have started the process of obtaining the resolution for 2005. CTE Week will be celebrated in conjunction with the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) CTE week, as well as the Governor's Career Education Conference. The date for 2005 is February 13-19. Each CTE Administrator in Michigan will receive a copies of the resolution in January.

CLEG

Governor Granholm has issued an Executive Order creating the Council for Labor and Economic Growth. The new CLEG replaces the current Michigan Workforce Investment Board and includes members who are key leaders from business, labor, community colleges, universities, community based organizations, local workforce boards, and K-12 educational community, and government. The Council will recommend strategies to encourage and stimulate innovation responses to Michigan's workforce challenges. The new Council has been reorganized to comply with federal workforce law which requires a 73 member board. Representing the CTE community will be Eugene Pierce of Tuscola ISD. Congratulations, Gene. Some of the strategic efforts the Council will help tackle are:

- achieving the Governor's goal of doubling the number of students who obtain college degrees and other credentials over the next 10 years
- facilitating the transition of Michigan workers for 21st century jobs and careers
- engaging local workforce boards to strategically build effective coalitions
- developing a system to measure the success of workforce development in Michigan
- guiding the creation of a strategy to assist low wage workers to become financially self supporting

Accessibility Standards

Attached please find an information sheet outlining accessibility standards for career and technical education classrooms and labs. You may find this helpful when working with individual teachers to make their rooms accessible to the disabled student.

YES! Expo

The first Michigan YES!, Youth Engineering and Science, Expo was held on November 6, 2004 at Crisler Arena in Ann Arbor. Thirty companies and 16 universities came together in a trade show style event to show middle and high school students the exciting science and engineering education and careers available to them.

The YES! Expo was held in conjunction with the *Bash at the Big House* football game between Michigan Tech and Grand Valley State at Michigan Stadium. Michigan Technological University hosted of both events.

Participating companies sponsored tickets for students to attend both the YES! Expo and the football game. Nearly 14,000 tickets were distributed to middle and high school students in Michigan and surrounding states. The overall attendance of the combined events at Michigan Stadium and Crisler Arena was just over 50,000. All spectators were able to experience Expo exhibits in Crisler Arena and surrounding the football stadium. Major sponsorship was provided by the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth, the Herbert and Grace Dow Foundation, and the Ann Arbor Community Foundation.

Because the YES Expo was deemed successful by both corporate and university exhibitors, organizers are planning YES Expo 2005. More information will be available as details develop.

AYES Students Receive GM Scholarship

General Motors has awarded scholarship assistance to AYES students to continue their education at the college level. All AYES students interning at GM dealerships are eligible to apply for one of ten, \$7,000 scholarships to attend the General Motors Automotive Service Educational Program of their choice.

To be eligible for a scholarship, students must continue their education through a GM ASEP/BSEP program and maintain employment at a GM dealership. "General Motors is proud to offer these bright young students a scholarship that will help them achieve their career goals as a GM Dealer Service Technician," said Bob Slovey, GM National ASEP/AYES Manager. Many of the students receiving GM scholarships have achieved significant accomplishments as AYES students this past year.

Seth Zombory, a student at River Valley High School in Three Oaks, was chosen to receive one of the scholarships. Seth is attending Ferris State University and is employed by Harbor Chevrolet Cadillac. Congratulations!

Automotive Youth Education Systems (AYES) Michigan Team

The application window is now open for the JFS Scholarship through February 28, 2005. Last year there were 12 scholarships available and only 6 were awarded due to a lack of participation. Please encourage every senior student who participated in an internship to apply. This year there are 20 scholarships available. Please view the AYES Website: www.ayes.org and click on "Latest News".

News from the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education

President Signs FY 05 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

On Wednesday, December 8, the President signed H.R. 4818, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, also known as the Omnibus Bill. The pressures faced by Congress during its budget and appropriations' debates this year serve as a warning signal as the fiscal situation of our nation remains bleak and the pressures to cut domestic programs continue to increase. In mid-October, the Office of Management Budget (OMB) released its mid-session review projecting a budget deficit of \$455 billion in FY 2005. While slightly better than projections, the Treasury Department closed fiscal year 2004 with an actual deficit of \$413 billion. This is the largest deficit, in nominal terms, in our nation's history.

These budget pressures are forcing Congress to take actions such as the one it took when it passed this year's Omnibus Bill – an across the board cut of 0.8% for most domestic discretionary programs. The good news is that because Congress had originally appropriated a funding increase for Perkins, the full 0.8% across the board cut was effectuated. The net loss of funding was 0.13% or approximately \$1.8 million. Here are the numbers:

PROGRAM	FY 04	FY 05	CHANGE FROM FY04
Perkins Basic State Grant	\$1,195,008,000	\$1,194,331,296	-\$676,704 or -0.06%
Tech Prep	\$106,665,000	\$105,811,680	-\$853,320 or -0.8%
National Programs	\$11,852,000	\$11,757,184	-\$94,816 or -0.8%
Tech Prep Demonstration	\$4,939,000	\$4,899,488	-\$39,512 or -0.8%
ACRN (section 118)	\$9,382,000	\$9,306,944	-\$75,056 or -0.8%
TOTAL	\$1,327,846,000	\$1,326,106,592	-\$1,739,408 or -0.13%
Tribally-Controlled Postsecondary Vocational Institutions (appropriated under higher ed)	\$7,185,000	\$7,440,000	+\$255,000

For detailed information, visit: www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/news.html#05action.

Changing Leadership – Education

As most of you know by now, Secretary of Education Rod Paige announced his intention to step down from his post, as has Under Secretary Eugene Hickok. President Bush selected Margaret Spellings as Paige's successor.

Spellings' career with education policy began in 1988 when she became a lobbyist for the Texas Association for School Boards. In the early 90's, she was tapped by then Governor Bush to lead Texas' school reform effort. At the beginning of his first term, President Bush brought Spellings to Washington D.C. to serve as his Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy. Spellings has been known as a key 'behind the scenes' player in the Administration; she will now move into the spotlight with this new position. While she is widely known to have been the primary architect of the No Child Left Behind legislation, we have no information about her awareness or intentions with regard to Perkins and career technical education. The Senate has scheduled Spellings' nomination hearing, which is expected to move forward without controversy, for January 6, 2005.

Changing Leadership – Congress

While the make up of Congress shifted to become slightly more Republican ...

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		
Party	Total	Gain/Loss
Democrat	200	-3
Independent	1	0
Republican	231	+4

SENATE			
Party	Seats not up	Total	Gain/Loss
Democrat	29	44	-4
Independent	1	1	0
Republican	36	55	+4

... the reality is that there is no clear majority and thus the parties must continue to try to work together to accomplish their legislative goals.

The Congressional leadership impacting education issues will largely remain unchanged. Chairman of the House Education and Workforce Committee John Boehner (R-OH) and ranking Member George Miller (D-CA) are expected to stay in place. The most significant change in the House is that the Appropriations Committee Chairman C.W. Bill Young (R-FL) will step down. A replacement has not yet been announced, but Education Subcommittee Chairman and CTE supporter Ralph Regula (R-OH) is rumored to be a top contender. If Regula is chosen as Chairman, his Subcommittee position would also need to be filled.

Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee Judd Gregg (R-NH) will become Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. Gregg's departure leaves the chair position open at the HELP Committee, which is expected to be filled by Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY). Senator Enzi is a known quantity to CTE and can be characterized as a moderate Republican who understands and values CTE and workforce training programs. Senator Enzi also presided over the HELP committee's 2004 hearing on Perkins reauthorization. Ranking member Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) will remain in his leadership position on the Committee. Senate Appropriations Chairman Ted Stevens (R-AK) will step down, with Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS) expected to replace him.

As Congress makes its transition to its next session, new Congressional members will be assigned to committees. During the last transition, it took the Congress until the end of February before committee assignments were complete. You can watch the committee websites to monitor progress of committee assignments; we will also share the updates committee rosters once they are available.

House Education and Workforce Committee: <http://edworkforce.house.gov>.

House Appropriations Committee: <http://appropriations.house.gov>.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee: <http://health.senate.gov/>.

Senate Appropriations Committee: <http://appropriations.senate.gov/>.

Information on Gender Equity Education

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) just released their *Trends in Educational Equity of Girls & Women: 2004*. This statistical report assembles a series of indicators that examine the extent to which males and females have access to the same educational opportunities, avail themselves equally of these opportunities, perform at similar levels throughout schooling, succeed at similar rates, and reap the same benefits from their educational experiences. This report serves as an update of an earlier publication, *Trends in Educational Equity of Girls & Women* (NCES 2000-030), which was prepared for Congress in 2000. To view the report, go to: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2005016>.

Skills to Build America's Future

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, between 2002 and 2012, there will be nearly 1 million new jobs for workers in the skilled trades - an increase of 15%. In April 2004, the U.S. Labor Department established the Skills to Build America's Future Initiative, which promotes careers in the skilled trades (i.e., occupations in the construction industry) by educating young people and workers in transition about available opportunities.

The Employment and Training Administration established the Skills to Build America's Future Initiative as a partnership among industry/labor, educators and the workforce investment system. Some of the partners involved in the Initiative include: the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration; U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education; National Association of Home Builders; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; Construction Industry Round Table; and the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers.

The initiative is designed to build national awareness of the importance of skilled workers to both America and the U.S. economy. Skills to Build aims to inform people about the training, education and apprenticeship opportunities available to those who want to join the skilled workforce. The initiative hopes to reach out to a new generation of skilled workers, and encourage them to use their skills and talents in skilled trade careers that "will help to pave the way to a fulfilling career and bright financial future."

For more information about the Skills to Build America's Future, please visit: www.careervoyages.gov/skillstobuild-main.cfm.

You may also download the White House's fact sheet on "Skills to Build for America's Future" at: www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/08/20040812-4.html.

Student Mentoring Programs Study by General Accounting Office

In June 2004, the General Accounting Office (GAO) released a study that provided information on student mentoring programs, as requested by Congress. The study reviewed 122 mentoring grantees funded by No Child Left Behind at a total of \$17 million a year.

The GAO answered the following questions in order to provide information on the student mentoring program: What are the basic elements, policies and procedures of successful mentoring programs?; What are the key characteristics of NCLBA-funded mentoring efforts, including the extent to which they have the basic elements, policies and procedures of successful mentoring programs?; How does the U.S. Department of Education monitor program implementation?; and what are the U.S. Department of Education's and grantees' plans to assess program outcomes?

The GAO reviewed literature from the federal grantees and found that successful mentoring programs:

- Plan their programs carefully prior to implementation;
- Develop policies and procedures to effectively manage programs, including mentor screening and training;
- Ensure program sustainability through marketing; and
- Evaluate program outcomes and disseminate their evaluation findings.

The report also found that most of the mentoring grantees had five years or more experience in mentoring youth, had similar goals, and provided "one-to-one" mentoring. You may download the full report from the GAO's website at: www.gao.gov/new.items/d04581.pdf.

Reading Next: A Vision for Action and Research in Middle and High School Literacy

The Carnegie Corporation and the Alliance for Excellent Education released a report in October 2004 entitled: Reading Next: A Vision for Action and Research in Middle and High School Literacy. The report combines the best research currently available to recommend strategies for turning research into practice to improve adolescent literacy. As the report states, "Clearly, there is a need to improve adolescent literacy, and this need is all the more pertinent because of the rapidly accelerating challenges of modern society. . . . The goal in improving adolescent literacy should not be to graduate more students from slightly improved schools, but rather to envision what improvements will be necessary to prepare tomorrow's youth for the challenges they will face twenty and thirty years from now."

A team of five leading researchers drew up the report's fifteen key elements of effective literacy program recommendations. These fifteen elements are:

- Direct, explicit comprehension instruction;
- Effective instructional principles embedded in content;
- Motivation and self-directed learning;
- Text-based collaborative learning;
- Strategic tutoring;
- Diverse texts;
- Intensive writing;
- A technology component;
- Ongoing formative assessment of students;
- Extended time for literacy;
- Professional development;
- Ongoing summative assessment of students and programs;
- Teacher teams;
- Leadership; and
- A comprehensive and coordinated literacy program.

For more information on each element, the recommendations, and to order the report, please visit the Alliance for Excellent Education's website at: www.all4ed.org/publications/ReadingNext/index.html.

College Readiness for All: A Practitioners' Toolbox

The Pathways to College Network is an alliance of 38 national organizations and funders who are committed to increasing college access and success for underserved students (especially first generation college students, low-income students, underrepresented minorities and students with disabilities). The Pathways to College Network has created a systematic, research-based resource to help schools and college outreach programs increase the number of students preparing for postsecondary education. The toolbox helps educators:

- Learn about what works from research and examples;
- Assess their present situations and plan change;
- Access resources for implementing their plans; and
- Monitor progress toward achieving their goal of college-ready high school graduates.

This toolbox assists state and school district leaders with implementing initiatives to make the college-prep curriculum the standard program of study for all students. The toolbox offers separate paths for principals, counselors and college outreach practitioners. Each section provides a users guide, presentations, checklists,

inventories and assessment tools to create awareness, assess the current situation, develop a plan for improvement, implement a plan and evaluate success.

For more information on this new resource from the Pathways to College Network, please visit:
www.pathwaystocollege.net/collegereadiness/toolbox/index.htm.

NTSC/ACRN Product - The National Career Development Guidelines

The NTSC/ACRN has released a portion of the new National Career Development Guidelines:
www.acrnetwork.org/ncdg/ncdg_framework.aspx.